

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 10723 201901Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SSC-01 AGRE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 /063 W

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P 201612Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8025

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT LOPEZ RESHUFFLES CABINET

REF: BOGOTA 10472

1. LATE OCT 19, PRESIDENT LOPEZ ANNOUNCED SIX CABINET CHANGES AS FOLLOWS: MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, RAFAEL PARDO BUELVAS (HE WAS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE); MINISTER OF LABOR, OSCAR MONTOYA MONTOYA (EARLIER HE SERVED AS GOVERNOR OF ANTIOQUIA); MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, SARA ORDONEZ DE LONDONO (SHE HAD BEEN ACTING AS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER AND HAD SERVED EARLIER AS VICE-MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS). ALL ARE CONSERVATIVES. MINISTER OF JUSTICE, VICTOR RENAN BARCO (HE HAS BEEN SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE); MINISTER OF HEALTH, RAUL OREJUELA BUENO (UNTIL RECENTLY HE WAS GOVERNOR OF VALLE DEPARTMENT); MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ALVARO ARAUJO NOGUERA (HE HAS BEEN GENERAL MANAGER OF THE CAJA AGRARIA). THESE THREE ARE LIBERALS.

2. PARDO IS OF THE SAME CLOTH AS HIS PREDECESSOR, CORNELIO REYES. A STRONG ANTI-COMMUNIST, HE EVICTED THE MAOIST-DOMINATED NATIONAL FARMWORKERS ASSOCIATION (ANUC) FROM THE PREMISES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IN LATE 1975. MONTOYA, REPLACING MARIA ELENA DE CROVO, WAS A NO-NONSENSE GOVERNOR, WHO DID NOT HESITATE IN CALLING OUT THE MILITARY

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 10723 201901Z

TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER, EVEN WHEN THE STATE OF SIEGE WAS

NOT IN FORCE. RENAN BARCO'S PRINCIPAL CLAIM TO THE JUSTICE POSITION IS HIS WELL-KNOWN STRONG SUPPORT OF LOPEZ THROUGHOUT MANY YEARS. HE IS A LAWYER AND ECONOMIST, AND DID GRADUATE WORK AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

3. APPROPRIATE BIO DATA FOLLOWS.
SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

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